DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW AUSTRALIAN PLANTS, WITH OCCASIONAL OTHER ANNOTATIONS;

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ARISTOLOCHIA HOLTZEI.

Herbaceous, erect, dwarf, nearly glabrous; leaves comparatively long, almost sessile, laxe, linear, much narrowed towards the upper end; flowers axillary, solitary, mostly on a rather long stalklet; basal portion of the calyx obliquely ovate-globular, thence the tube slender, and about half as long and wide as the broad-linear upwards narrowed flat termination; fruit almost globular, rather small, prominently filiform-streaked; seeds deltoid-cordate

Near Port Darwin; N. Holtze.

Closely allied to A. Tozetii, but all the leaves lobeless and sessile, the pedicels elongated, the flat part of the corolla occupying a proportionately greater length, and the constricted portion more slender.

A. Tozetii seems to be entirely an eastern species, A. Holtzei only a north-western.

CYMODOCEA ZOSTERIFOLIA.

Of this plant several specimens with pistillate flowers were recently received from J. Bracebridge Wilson Esq., M.A., F.L.S., to whom the writer had recommended the search for floral organs during that gentleman's zealous algologic excursions. I now find the style of each of the two fruitlets terminating in from 3 to 6 setulaceous rather long stigmas. The female flowers had only once before been obtained, then in a fruit-bearing state, and were thus described in the "Fragm. Phytogr. Austral." ix, 196 (1875). The staminate flowers are as yet only known from Gaudichaud's "Botanique" of Freycinet's "Voyage Autour du Monde," 340 t. 40 (1826). That these minute organs have hitherto eluded observation so much, is explained by their being concealed within the axils of leaves, and clasped by the longitudinal-incurved petioles. In adopting the above given specific name already in the first "Census of Austral. Plants" 121, ten years ago, as transferred from Agardh's Amphibolis zosterifolia, and in discarding the specific designation antarctica, given by Labillardière to this oceanic monocotyledonous plant of our warm temperate zone, it was desired, to discontinue the erroneous notion, conveyed by the original name; because we might just as well call any lowlands plant peculiar to the remotest part of South-Europe an arctic one. Cymodocea zosterifolia does not grow further south than Tasmania, being there still more than twenty degrees of latitude distant from the antarctic circle; indeed, the same geographic remark applies to our Dicksonia Billardieri (D. antarctica, Lab.; Cibotium Billardieri, Kaulf.), which, though reaching New Zealand, does not even extend to the Auckland- and Campbell-Islands.

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